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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/689,831	10/13/2000	Sadao Nishibori	3170/2	6502

7590 06/04/2002

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EXAMINER

PRINCE, FRED G

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1724

DATE MAILED: 06/04/2002

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

1.D-9

Information Disclosure Statement

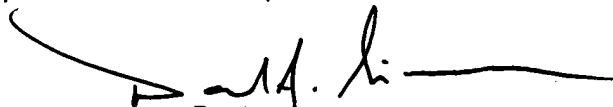
1. Applicant's information disclosure statement of May 10, 2002 has been considered by the examiner. The reference which the foreign office listed with an "X" is not deemed by the examiner to anticipate claim 1 as the reference does not state a void rate of the low density portion relative to the high density portion nor does it state that the vegetation is planted in the low density portion.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Fred G. Prince whose telephone number is (703) 306-9169. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday, 6:30-4:00; alt. Fridays 6:30-3:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Simmons can be reached on (703) 308-1972. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9310 for regular communications and (703) 872-9311 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0661.



David A. Simmons
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 1700

FP
Fred Prince
May 31, 2002